

Our term approved by Cabinet

By HIRSH GOODMAN
Post Military Correspondent

The Cabinet yesterday finally approved the extension of Chief of Staff Yitzhak Rabin's appointment for another year.

The OC Air Force Aluf Binyamin led has served in his present post over four and a half years. The Central Command, Aluf Yona, is also currently entering his fourth year. Both the OC Armoured Corps, Aluf Moshe Peled, and the OC Infantry, Aluf Avraham Adan, are due to complete their three-year terms soon.

At yesterday's Cabinet session, the OC Air Force's performance as a unit was highly praised by Defence Minister Peres and Premier Rabin, who noted that it had watched over a period of unprecedented growth in the IDF while maintaining a spirit of comradery at the General Staff level.

The extension of his appointment was approved unanimously.

Left landslide in French city poll

PARIS (UPI). — French Socialists and Communists swept toward a landslide victory yesterday over the incumbent coalition in the second round of municipal voting at Paris, setting the pattern for parliamentary elections a year from now.

Percentages with returns half completed were the same as for the first round — 52 per cent for the left, 48 per cent for the right, 2 per cent for independent parties.

This was enough to put the left in control of a majority of French cities with more than 30,000 inhabitants.

Official projections were that the left would fall to capture Paris, but the left's control of three-quarters of the other large cities.

With returns in for 24 of the 63 municipalities at stake in the second round, the left had won 24 and the right only 19. And 22 of the left's 24 were city halls previously held by the right.

The left had won 113 of the 221 municipalities, with 45 going to the government and 63 remaining to be decided in the runoff.

Indira Gandhi defeated for seat in parliament

NEW DELHI. — Prime Minister Indira Gandhi suffered a stunning defeat in her home constituency as opposition Janata Party opened to head for victory in the Indian general elections early today.

Mrs. Gandhi lost her seat in Rae Bareilly shortly after her younger son Rajiv was heavily defeated in the neighbouring constituency of Meerut.

Of the first 173 results declared from the four-day polling for the 542-member Parliament, the Janata Party and its allies had 28, while the Congress had 25, the pro-Moscow communists 2 and independents and regional groups the remaining 13.

Congress appeared to be headed for its first defeat since India gained independence 30 years ago.

The 59-year-old prime minister, who came to power 11 years ago, lost her seat by 55,000 votes to former socialist leader Raj Narain, according to the Indian National News Agency.

The resurgence of the opposition owes much to two men. They are Morarji Desai, 81, a former deputy prime minister, and Jayaprakash Narayan, 74, patron of the Janata Party who quit active politics in the 1960s to devote himself to social work.

(Early story — Page 4)



Yitzhak Rabin, after casting his vote in the NRP election yesterday, in what he seems to have anticipated was a loss.

Raphael kept off NRP list

Jerusalem Post Reporter

Dr. Yitzhak Raphael will not appear on the Knesset list of the National Religious Party.

Raphael, former Religious Affairs Minister, was third on the NRP list in the last elections. He was defeated by what he called a "conspiracy" against him by the leaders of the other factions in his party — joined by two of his own lieutenants, MK Aharon Abu-Hatira and David Glas.

Meanwhile, Dr. Zerah Warhaftig, who was defeated in his own Central District last week by Eliezer Goelman, was elected yesterday to 8th place on the NRP list.

This was made possible by an ad hoc rule adopted yesterday by the party's "united executive," and which was designed to allow Raphael, under this rule, any six members of a given faction on the united executive could nominate a candidate in addition to those nominated by the faction.

This enabled the anti-Raphael factions to elect Abu-Hatira and Glas, but it also made it possible for Warhaftig to be elected, even though his name was not one of the two submitted by his faction.

The secretary of the Raphael faction is due to meet on Wednesday. It is considered likely that the faction may protest the legality of the elections in the High Court of Justice.

The united executive yesterday authorized the nominations committee to include "a personality universally accepted" in a high place on the list. The most commonly mentioned name is Rabbi Haim Druckman, head of Or Etzion Yeshiva at Sha'ar HaTorah in Jerusalem.

A place was reserved for Hakhbuz Hadati, and both Dr. Yosef Burg and party secretary Zvi Bernstein yesterday urged that body to reconsider its decision not to submit the names of any candidates. That decision was taken last week by Hakhbuz Hadati council by a vote of 89-37.

Sara Stern-Katan defeated Zahava Malkiel for the place allotted to the party's women's organization. She is a member of Kibbutz Yavneh and a lecturer in social work at Bar-Ilan University.

The first 12 names on the NRP list are: 1. Yosef Burg (Lamith); 2. Zevulun Hammer (Youth); 3. Aharon Abu-Hatira (Likud Utemura); 4. Avraham Melamed (Lamith); 5. Yehuda Ben-Meir (Youth); 6. Eliezer Avetbi (Moebavim); 7. David Glas (Likud Utemura); 8. Zerah Warhaftig (Central); 9. Ben-Zion Rubin, deputy mayor of Netanya (Lamith); 10. Sara Stern-Katan; 11. Reserved for Hakhbuz Hadati; 12. Fishas Shelmman (Likud Utemura).

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FOR A STRONG ECONOMY
ISRAEL BONDS

Rabin admits co-ownership of wife's U.S. account

Jerusalem Post Reporter

Lea Rabin's illegal bank account in Washington was held by her jointly with her husband, Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, revealed in a radio interview last night. He said he shared "formal" as well as moral responsibility with his wife for the account.

The existence of the account was revealed by "Ha'aretz" last week, after Lea Rabin was seen in a downtown Washington bank during the Rabin's official visit to the U.S. capital.

It was not known until last night, that the Premier himself was co-owner of the account — and therefore also guilty of an offence against foreign currency regulations.

The Rabin's have already acknowledged "technical" their failure to close the account as the law requires, after Rabin's term as ambassador in Washington ended in March 1975. They have now closed it and Mrs. Rabin has donated its contents to a fund for autistic children.

The Treasury, following the normal practice in such cases, has asked for disclosure of the relevant bank statements from 1973 to 1977; and officials say they hope to have them in a few days.

Rabin told the interviewer the account was "not secret or numbered," and there was nothing sinister about it. He and Lea had opened it when they arrived in Washington in 1968, and Lea had managed it throughout their stay there. They had neglected to close it after they left. All the money in the account, the Premier explained, "originated during our term in the U.S." The affair was now in the hands of the relevant authorities, the Premier noted.

The radio reported that the Treasury was interested in ascertaining whether there had been any deposits during the 1973-77 period. (The Rabin's have indicated that the account was effectively dormant during this period.)

If the Rabin's explanations are authenticated, they are expected to be fined IL3 for every dollar, as is the near-automatic practice in cases of illegal holding of small amounts of money abroad. The fine would be levied administratively, since no court action is generally taken in cases involving sums of this order.

Lebanon turns to Palestinians

BEIRUT (UPI). — With calm restored in the mountainous Shouf region yesterday, Lebanese authorities and Arab mediators once again focused their attention on the thorny question of Lebanese-Palestinian relations, political sources said.

Unofficial reports from the Shouf said at least 141 persons had been killed in the wake of Wednesday's (Continued on page 2, col. 5)

Terrorists 'mother ship' calls at wrong port — Haifa

Jerusalem Post Staff

HAIFA. — Security forces last week detained a Turkish freighter and its four-man crew on suspicion of having aided an attempted Arab terror attack on Tel Aviv last week. The ship, a 260-ton Okanlar, was seized when they attempted to pick up a load of feedstuffs for Cyprus last Monday. Police said the ship matched the description of the freighter that offloaded a rubber boat containing arms and five Arab terrorists near the Tel Aviv shore last September.

(The five had lost their nerve, tossed their guns overboard and told astonished Israelis on the Tel Aviv beach where they landed that they were running away from the Egyptian military draft. But they later confessed to security forces that they had come on a terrorist mission, and described the Okanlar as their mother ship.)

When the Okanlar, which usually put runs between Turkey and Port Said, put in here on Monday, it alerted its crew list. The names — captain Husain Bash, Ahmet Dunct Kars, 35, Ahmed Muhammad Bash, 38, and Saraf Aldin Farhat Okgul, 51 — matched those the terrorists had given as the names of their helpers.

In Haifa Magistrate's Court on Friday they told Chief Magistrate Ram Savir that they had not known about the rubber boat and had not been on watch when it was lowered. Judge Savir agreed to the police request that the captain's remand be extended 15 days; but he ordered only a five-day extension for the crew, on grounds that they had been under the captain's orders at sea.

Yesterday the police asked that the ban on publication of the news concerning the ship be lifted.

New devaluation: IL9.31/\$1

Jerusalem Post Reporter AC

Another devaluation crept upon Israelis at midnight last night, this time of 1.8 per cent. It brought the exchange rate for the U.S. dollar to IL9.31, and travellers will now have to pay IL10.70 per dollar.

This latest mini-devaluation comes at a three-month period of relative price stability. During December, January and February the Consumer Price Index rose by 3.4 per cent, while devaluations came to 7.9 per cent. In the preceding three months, August-October 1976, the cumulative rate of devaluation was 7.5 per cent, while the Consumer Price Index rose by 11.3 per cent.

The government is thus continuing its declared policy of devaluing by about 8 per cent over every four months.

The new exchange rate means that the pound sterling will cost IL5.85, the Deutschmark IL5.89, the French franc IL1.37 and the Swiss franc IL1.64.

There will be no change in the price of basic commodities as a result of the devaluation. Foreign-exchange balances held by the banking system will be taxed by this rate of devaluation, and export incentives will be raised proportionately.

Zaire recaptures vital town

KINSHASA. — Zairean troops recaptured the strategically important town of Kasaji from the rebel forces invading the former Katanga province, President Mobutu told journalists.

The rebel forces, believed to be Katangan gendarmes, "fled (from Kasaji) in panic leaving behind them important losses in men and materials," Mobutu said.

Replying to questions, he said the aim of the aggression "is to hurt the Zairean economy."

The copper mines of Katanga, now known as Shaba province, account for 7 per cent of the world's copper output.

Kasaji is a road junction situated on the important Benguela railway some 240 km. west of the mining centre of Kolwezi, where Mobutu met with journalists visiting the area.

Zaire armed forces continued their fight against invaders in Shaba province yesterday but mercenaries still held four towns, Radio Zaire reported. The radio said ground troops advanced with air support which pounded enemy positions in Shaba.

Kapanga, Esandona, Kitenge and Diloa were still controlled by the invaders, the radio said.

In Salisbury, Rhodesian Prime Minister Ian Smith said yesterday the armed invasion of Zaire was the Soviet Union's latest attempt to "create a saddle across Africa" as part of its plan to take over the whole of southern Africa.

Smith said: "If Zaire goes, then the next country to go will be Zambia. And one hasn't got to stretch one's imagination very far to work out where they are going to go from there." (UPI, Reuters)

(World Scene — page 4)

PLO Council endorses call for end to Israel

Post Middle East Affairs Editor

The Palestine National Council last night ended its 15th session in Cairo with an endorsement of the Palestine Liberation Organization's 1968 covenant, which calls for the eventual dismantling of the State of Israel.

The council also expressed support for the PLO's quest to participate in Middle-East peace conferences, but not under UN Security Council Resolution 242, which governs the Israel-Arab talks at Geneva.

The 293 men parliament-in-exile affirmed the right of the PLO to participate on an independent and equal footing in all international conferences or forums concerned with the Palestine question in accordance with UN General Assembly resolutions, rather than Security Council decisions. The council made special reference to General Assembly Resolution 3236, which acknowledges the Palestinian case as a national issue and not a refugee matter.

The council made these remarks yesterday in a communiqué, but no official version of its resolutions has yet been made available. News agencies carried varying versions of council resolutions, generally stating that 15 separate points had been issued. Cairo Radio, however, listed only 13 clauses and, unlike the independent agencies, stressed the adherence to the old charter calling for the dismantling of Israel.

Many observers viewed the council as basically supporting PLO chief Yasser Arafat, who favours joining Arab leaders in political manoeuvres in spite of the PLO's hawkish "Rejection Front." The rejectionists, led by Dr. George Habbash's Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, had opposed the PLO's involvement in any form of political deliberations extending de facto recognition to Israel.

Late evening reports, however, said that the rejectionists had supported the overall communiqué, apparently upon the council's reaffirmation of the 1968 charter.

The highlights of other council resolutions relayed by Cairo Radio included a decision to continue the PLO's struggle for the "recovery" of the national right of return and self-determination and the right to establish an independent state on their national soil.

The council further affirmed that the struggle within the "occupied land" would be escalated on military, political and public-opinion levels "until defeating and eliminating the occupation."

The council also emphasized what it called the importance of relations and coordination with democratic and progressive Jewish forces which are struggling against Zionism as an ideology and a practice — inside and outside "the occupied homeland."

The council affirmed the PLO's right to exist in Lebanon, though in coordination with the Beirut authorities and within the framework of a 1969 Cairo agreement between the two sides. It also (Continued on page 2, col. 5)

PLO seen as strong as before

Post Middle East Affairs Editor

The 293 member Palestine National Council wound up its 15-day session in Cairo last night without changing the basic political stance of the Palestine Liberation Organization. The council was dominated by the PLO's militant leadership. It reaffirmed its 1968 charter, promising the creation of a Palestinian state at the expense of Israel's existence.

Delegates who reportedly planned to explore the prospects of changing the charter — in the words of PLO spokesmen — "dared not raise" the notion.

No matter how far observers go in scrutinizing the final communiqué issued by the Palestine National Council last night, the fact remains that the PLO steered the supposed representative of the different factions of the Palestinian people into adhering to a hard-line Middle East stance which essentially denies Israel's right to exist as a sovereign Jewish state.

This PLO emerged from the sessions as strong as before, despite the debates it confronted in the course of the past 10 years. It was able to defy the few moderate Palestinian voices and U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance who recently voiced expectations that the PLO would embark on moderation.

The PLO also defied some Arab states, including Egypt, which have been signalling their interest in the demonstration of a "moderate" Arab line of policy — mainly to build up world pressure against Israel.

President Sadat has argued that the PLO has an uncontested right to maintain full independence in adopting whatever Middle East stance it deems fit. But this conflict with Sadat's interest in bringing the PLO into the negotiating process with Israel. The diplomatic editor of the semi-official "Al-Ahram" newspaper, Hamdi Fuad, only yesterday afternoon reported Sadat, over Cairo's "Sawt al-Arab" radio, to be considering the Palestinian case as an "inseparable part" of the overall Arab conflict with Israel, involving Egypt, Syria and Jordan.

Analysts do not believe that the Arab states concerned with the conflict cannot control the PLO, Jordan and Syria did curb it when it suited them. One explanation would be that Sadat is keeping an inside track with the PLO, as a device for hard bargaining with Israel, and to block Syrian pretensions towards promoting a Greater Syrian axis embracing the Jordanians and the Palestinians as well as the Lebanese.

The only other explanation is that the Egyptian leader himself views the PLO as a kind of an outpost that, if defied, endangers a number of Arab regimes. There were PLO extremists in Iraq and Libya over the weekend who warned Israel's neighbouring Arab governments against dragging their kicking-and-screaming colleagues into a peaceful Middle East settlement.

"We are going underground," warned one Baghdad-based PLO spokesman, while intimating that attacks against "members of (Arab) regimes" will begin soon, mainly in Syria, Jordan and Egypt. Sadat appears confident that PLO chief Yasser Arafat will keep the PLO oriented toward Cairo. Arafat was able to hold the PLO factions together after capitulating to the hard liners' positions. The latter, who often defied Cairo's political notions, emerged as a powerful opposition with which Arafat will now have to reckon in every move he makes.

The hard-liners had their way in reaffirming the PLO's adherence to the nine-year-old covenant which calls for the eventual dismantlement of Israel as a sovereign state. They also blocked moves to have the PLO participate in negotiation of a Middle East settlement.

The National Council's stance merely gives Arafat leeway to explore the political avenues leading to the creation of a state on the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. The hard-liners now agree that such an achievement could serve as a first step towards their ultimate aim of establishing a broader Palestinian "democratic secular state" in collusion with "Jewish progressive forces." Indeed, Arafat would seem to have been acknowledged last night as the "man for all seasons" whom the PLO needs to knock on every door.

Rabin: 'Major differences' with U.S.

By ASHER WALLFISH and DAVID LANDAU
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin told the nation last night that there were "major differences" with Washington on two key issues — Israel's final borders and the Palestinian question. His candid tone was echoed in yesterday's Cabinet communiqué, which spoke bluntly of "substantial gap" between Jerusalem and Washington on these two "central points."

Rabin's statement, in a radio interview, seemed to indicate a deliberate decision to present to the public the points of agreement and points of dispute with the U.S. in a forthright way. Observers said Rabin apparently believed that the electorate ultimately would appreciate frankness, better than attempts to paper over the rifts with Washington.

He was "happy," Rabin said, with the "marked improvement" in American's position on "the quality of peace." But there were "major differences" with the Carter Administration, as indeed there had been with all previous administrations since 1967, on the borders and the Palestinian issue. He himself had not been surprised at this, the Premier explained. "We were able to dodge these issues as long as we were engaged in interim agreements. But in dealing with an overall settlement we cannot avoid these two basic problems."

The Premier called for redoubled Israeli informational efforts in the U.S. on the two key issues in dispute. Israel must fight for sympathy from public opinion, the Congress, and the Administration, for its insistence on "defensible borders that are different from the pre-1967 borders" and for his view of how to solve the Palestinian problem without recourse to a separate West Bank state or to negotiations with the PLO.

Informational efforts were "vital, important" in a democratic society like the U.S., the Premier asserted.

"If we can sustain the principles which President Carter outlined — his definition of peace and his insistence that responsibility for negotiations and decisions is in the hands of the parties — and if we can ensure that the practical ties between the U.S. and Israel are not impaired...I see these as our chief aims (to be achieved through the informational effort)," he said.

Asked to comment on the Palestinian National Council, the Premier noted that even though the ostensible "moderate" had had the upper hand, the stance (as reflected in the resolutions) had still been ultra-extremist — insistence on the dismantling of the State of Israel. This proved that "the terror organizations which call themselves 'PLO' cannot be negotiating partners for Israel. The only meeting-place (for us) with them is the battlefield."

(Continued on page 2, col. 5)

Mr. and Mrs. Shmuel Toledan
Jerusalem.
Announce
their children
Ychuda
20, 1977
day

Histadrut wants 4-5% hike for factory hands

By ZE'EV SCHUL, Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — The Histadrut Central Committee yesterday demanded a 4-5 per cent wage increase for industrial workers, retroactive to January 1.

The wage hike would increase an industrial worker's gross income by about IL1400 a month, depending on type of work he does and his personal qualifications.

The committee noted "with regret that the Manufacturers' Association and the Coordinating Council of Economic Organizations, which represent the privately owned sector of industry, had so far steadfastly refused to meet Histadrut's demands that industrial workers be compensated. It ordered the Histadrut's trade union department, unions and staff committees to take immediate steps to implement the committee's decision.

Histadrut Secretary-General Yehoshua Meisel summarized the committee's decision as "justified in the light of recent events" (referring to the recent wage increase granted to public-sector employees). He also noted that the Manufacturers' Association "has not yet accepted the committee's decision on its own accord."

Trade union chief Uriel Abramowitz said a Histadrut delegation had attempted to sound

Bar-Ilan classes to resume today

Jerusalem Post Reporter

RAMAT GAN. — The Bar-Ilan University faculty were due to return to classes this morning, after a week's strike that brought to a halt the university's academic progress in its negotiations with the Histadrut.

Likier the Tel Aviv, Haifa and Hebrew University faculties, the Bar-Ilan teachers are still refusing to sign the proposed wage agreement. Their decision to resume work came after junior and senior lecturers voted separately yesterday afternoon to suspend the strike in order to clear the air for further negotiations, senior staff union head Yigal Cohen said.

However, he warned that if by April 11 (after Pesach) there was no significant progress, lecturers would consider resuming the strike.

Cohen said the faculty's main demand was for formation of a committee which would check the decrease in faculty members' wages compared to those of academics outside universities.

He claimed that in 1984 a professor's wage had been 3.5 times that of a lecturer, whereas today it was only 1.8 times higher.

Juvenile crime on the wane

By MARSHA POMERANTZ, Jerusalem Post Reporter

Fewer young people committed crimes last year than in 1975, but more of those who did had been in trouble with the law before.

Last year's drop of about 15 per cent in the number of juvenile offenders reflects a trend which began in 1968. Dr. Menahem Horowitz, head of the Welfare Ministry's corrections division, told the press in Jerusalem yesterday.

All minors arrested are referred to the ministry's youth probation service. In 1976 the number of referrals was 7,518, as opposed to 8,895 in 1975, according to Meir Hovav, head of the service. The figures include boys aged 9-16 and girls aged 9-16. The ceiling for minority was raised to 17 for males in October 1976.

The rate of recidivism was highest among 16 year olds, about half of whom were previously known to police. The number of returning offenders in the younger groups was about 34 per cent.

The decrease in referrals to the youth probation service is partly accounted for by a drop in crimes, but has other causes. One is the decrease in reporting cases of petty theft — "which accompanied inflation." The other is the development of social and educational services for the disadvantaged youth who tend to turn to crime. For instance, now that many schools have social workers, a child with problems is more likely to come to the attention of that social worker before the probation service has to step in.



An enterprising young man exploits a little parcel of empty land behind the Tel Aviv Museum to fulfill his agricultural yearnings. In the background, the IBM building claws its way higher into the Tel Aviv skyline. (GPPA)

THIS WEEK

Lotto Draw 12/77
Minimum first prize fund
IL200,000
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Today is the last day
for handing in Lotto entries

Buyers of faulty flat win award of IL24,000

TEL AVIV (Itim). — Shikun Ovdim has been ordered to pay IL24,000 compensation for defects in an apartment sold to Abraham and Nava Horowitz in Tel Aviv's "Lamed Plan" development.

The complaint cited defects in floor tiles, cracks in plaster, defective doors and windows, crooked door and window frames, signs of wetness on walls, a radiator installed backwards, and lack of a water outlet on the terrace.

In Tel Aviv Magistrate's Court, Judge David Bar-Ophir rejected the defence argument that the complainants, both teachers, had refused Shikun Ovdim's offer to repair the defects. Finding the building firm guilty of negligent construction, he ordered it to pay the Horowitz couple IL24,000 in damages, plus IL4,000 in legal fees — and added 28 per cent interest annually from 1975.

Final try today to avert new Bank Leumi strike

Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — Bank Leumi's staff committee will meet its management today in a final attempt to iron out differences and avert a strike which could paralyze all of the country's 300 branch offices this week.

Shimon Aharonovitz, member of the staff committee, told *The Jerusalem Post* here yesterday that there are "substantial" differences between the committee and management.

Basically the workers are claiming a 28 per cent wage hike and a 10-month "anniversary bonus." A management insists that all wage benefits be tied in with its own inter-annual, including the right to dismiss workers, transfer

Lebanon

(Continued from page one)

elaying of Junblatt and two of his companions.

Beirut newspapers, quoting sources close to rightist leaders who visited President Elias Sarkis on Saturday, said some of the persons responsible for the revenge killings had already been arrested. Security sources said at least 17 persons had been taken into custody.

Rightist leaders, including former President Suleiman Frangieh, National Liberal Party leader Camille Chamoun and Phalangist party boss Pierre Jemayel, also demanded an increase in security measures in the Shouf area to prevent further violence.

Sarkis met for one hour on Saturday with the members of the quadripartite Arab League committee in charge of mediating a normalization of Palestinian-Lebanese relations and reinterpreting the 1986 Cairo agreement governing those relations.

Sources close to the presidential palace said an amended version of the Cairo agreement has already been approved by the governments of the committee members — Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Syria. The amended version imposes greater restrictions of Palestinian movements in Lebanese cities, villages and areas bordering Israel, the sources said.

Armed with the support of the four Arab governments, Lebanese authorities will begin fresh contacts with various Lebanese factions and Palestinian leaders this week in a move to begin a rapid implementation of the so-called "new Cairo agreement," the sources said.

The committee is scheduled to meet Sarkis again later in the week to finalize "the very few remaining technicalities involving the new Cairo agreement," the sources said.

Maternity grant hike postponed

Jerusalem Post Reporter

The increase in maternity grants, proposed for April 1 by the National Insurance Institute, was postponed by the Knesset Labour Committee at a meeting on Friday.

The delay is to give NII, Kupat Holim, and the Ministry of Health time to determine which parts of the hospitalization of mother and child will be covered by whom in case of complications in the birth.

The proposed increase would put the grant at IL700 rather than IL490 for a single birth. The 40 per cent increase corresponds to the rise in the national average wage over the past year.

A cost-of-living increase for the woman on maternity leave will be paid by NII as of April 1, the Institute spokesman announced. The payment will be made in the middle of the three-month leave.

Ovadia Yosef opposes dividing top two rabbinical posts with Goren

By JUDY SIEGEL, Jerusalem Post Reporter

Sephardi Chief Rabbi Ovadia Yosef agrees with Ashkenazi Chief Rabbi Shlomo Goren that there should be only one chief rabbi. But unlike his colleague, Rabbi Yosef opposes dividing the posts of president of the Chief Rabbinical Council and president of the Supreme Rabbinical Court.

A proposal that the two chief rabbis alternate each year as presidents of the two institutions came recently from Religious Affairs Minister Haim Zadok, who is eager to make a breakthrough in rabbinical court laws and in feuding between the two chief rabbis.

But Rabbi Goren, as reported in Friday's *Jerusalem Post*, thinks Zadok's suggestion does not go far enough. He urges the election of one chief rabbi and one president of the rabbinical court, each to five-year terms, Rabbi Goren is willing to let Rabbi Yosef choose between the two positions.

At present the two chief rabbis are co-presidents of the council and of the court, and decisions need their dual approval.

Rabbi Yosef will inform Zadok at their next meeting with Rabbi Goren — postponed from tomorrow to next week — that he opposes the idea of rotation. He is adamant that the institution of Rishon Lezion (Sephardi Chief Rabbi), which has existed for over 300 years, not be compromised. Sources close to Rabbi Yosef believe that part of his agreement on the need for one chief rabbi derives from his confidence that he himself will win the post in the next Rabbinical election.

Zadok has received an opinion from his ministry's legal adviser that new Chief Rabbinate elections should be held this year on schedule, nearly five years after Rabbi Yosef and Goren took office.

Immigrant engineer acquitted of bribery

TEL AVIV (Itim). — The water engineer of the Petah Tikva Municipality was acquitted yesterday in Tel Aviv Magistrate's Court of having received a IL400 bribe from the owner of a photo-copy agency.

The man, Michael Nuhimovsky, who immigrated five years ago, proved he had been slandered by the photo-copy agency owner, who feared the municipality would no longer use his machines after it bought a photocopy machine of its own.

The magistrate said he was sorry that "this man, a relatively recent immigrant who was well absorbed in the country, was slandered and had to go through all the torments of a criminal trial."

Funeral of veteran Tel Aviv painter

Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — Chila Neumann, one of the first Tel Aviv-born painters, was buried yesterday in her family's plot in the old cemetery off Rebov Trumpeldor.

She was the youngest child of one of the founders of this city, and was born when Tel Aviv was only a few years old. After completing her art studies in Italy and Switzerland, she played a prominent part in the artistic life of her native city. She also maintained a studio in the Elin Hod artists' colony.

Ten years ago she was awarded the Dizengoff Prize for painting. She is survived by a son.

THE CORNERSTONE for a neighbourhood synagogue and community centre at Hod Hacarmel, Haifa, was laid yesterday. The IL2.5m building will be financed by donations and municipal aid.

Hospital heads still on strike

Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — The strike of 58 administrative directors of hospitals entered its sixth day today. No end to the labour dispute is in sight since the Government refuses even to discuss the matter.

The administrators went out on strike last Tuesday to press their claims for "the right" to receive a 28 per cent wage hike and a 10-month "anniversary bonus." The hospitals' medical directors, who receive about IL2,000 a month for standby duty. The administrators are demanding about a

Local Arabs denied Junblatt condolences

Jerusalem Post Reporter

HAIFA. — The Government has turned down a request from a leftist Arab group for permission to go to Lebanon for a condolence visit to the family of the recently assassinated Druse leader Kamal Junblatt.

The Prime Minister's acting adviser on Arab affairs said that the security situation in the area of Junblatt's family was too precarious to risk a visit by Israeli Arabs, especially since Israel had not diplomatic ties with Lebanon.

The delegation, headed by Druse Sheikh Amin Tarif, later withdrew its request for the visit.

Gafny: Could cut up to IL5b. from budget

By AARON SETNER, Jerusalem Post Reporter

Three, four or five billion pounds" could be slashed from the annual state budget, the governor of the Bank of Israel believes.

Amnon Gafny told a convention of American coin collectors Saturday night: "Though we succeeded last year in reducing private consumption, the other target — a cut in government spending — has not been reached. This is election year in Israel, you know."

Recalling that before his appointment as governor he had served as budget director and then as director-general of the Finance Ministry, Gafny added: "I now have the opportunity of viewing government spending from both sides of the economic fence. I must confess that all things being considered, my country's budget could be reduced by three, four or five billion pounds."

"But the cuts cannot be made by some senior officials," he continued. "They must be effected right at the Cabinet table, by the ministers themselves. It can be done."

Gafny's audience was comprised of 100 members of the American-Israel Numismatic Association, who were holding their ninth annual convention in Jerusalem. They leave for home tomorrow. AINA is a roof organization for hundreds of "Israel coin clubs" throughout North America, whose total membership is put at between 40,000 and 45,000.

Offering a lesson in Israel economics, Gafny explained the motive behind the policy of "creeping" devaluations — "to compensate our exporters for inflation and higher prices here at home. But I frankly

It's happened!

A United Front for Peace and Equality

Opposite Likud which leads us to war
— the camp for peace, **MAHANE SHELI**

Opposite the Labour Party which has lost its way
— the camp with well-defined aims, **MAHANE SHELI**

Opposite Mapam, on its hands and knees
— the independent camp with its head on high, **MAHANE SHELI**

Opposite DMC with its deceptions
— the camp for true change, **MAHANE SHELI**

Opposite Rakah, indebted to Moscow
— the Israeli Zionist camp for peace, **MAHANE SHELI**

MAHANE SHELI — A union of personalities who have been in the forefront of the struggle for peace and security for years. People who have paved the way for contacts with top Palestinian leaders.

MAHANE SHELI — A union of fighters for social justice and equality. Equal rights for Ashkenazim and Sephardim, for Jew and Arab, for men and women. The fight for a just Israel striving towards true social equality.

MAHANE SHELI — A union of forces for change, devoted to the rooting out of corruption, to the evolution of a new leadership which will set a personal example by its lifestyle.

Port pay demands turned down; Ashdod Port may strike today

Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — The Port Authority yesterday turned down the demands of the 1,200 workers for a IL200 pay rise, saying it could not afford to pay more wages because of the slump at the end of the citrus export season.

The workers in all three ports yesterday held a two-hour meeting from 10 a.m. to noon to hear from representatives about the talks with the authority. The Ashdod Port workers decided to strike today if their demands were not satisfied.

The turning down of the demands of the workers, the authority said, the up in citrus exports will cause a deficit. The authority said it would not agree to any pay rise except the one negotiated by the union for all the workers in the port.

The authority also stated that any pay rise would result in substantial cuts in manpower.

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Happy birthday, dear Rebbe...

Kfar Habad. — The Lubavitcher Rebbe won't be 75 until March 29, but his followers here already have begun celebrations.

First major ceremonies in honour of the rabbi Menahem Mendel Schneerson, are in Rehovot today, when Habad hassidim are laying a cornerstone at a local synagogue in his honour.

The main celebration in Israel will be on March 29, at the Menahem Synagogue in Kfar Habad. But many Kfar Habad residents are planning to go to New York, at their own expense, to participate in festivities at the rabbi's residence, 770 Eastern Parkway in Brooklyn.

The number 75 figure in many of the observances. Habad yeshiva students have vowed to memorize 75 pages of hassidic literature or Torah; some men have promised to get 75 Jewish males to put on tefillin; others plan to cheer 75 men and women and girls to light Sabbath candles.

REAL ESTATE deals on which land betterment tax and property tax have been paid by March 31 may be registered at the Lands Registry (Tabu) until April 30 without prior payment of property tax for 1977/78, the Treasury spokesman announced yesterday.

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Sharon: Arabs will attack this year

TEL AVIV (Itim). — Ahot (res.) Ariel Sharon warned here yesterday at the Arab states have already decided to launch a new war against Israel and will attack this summer or fall.

Sharon, head of the new Shimon Peres party, was speaking at a press conference which he said he had not attended for electioneering purposes. He is only a candidate to the elections as the government is to adopt a national emergency programme and to set up a government of national unity with 10-12 ministers.

Sharon said ministers Yitzhak Abin, Shimon Peres and Yigal Alon for having their strategy on Arab disunity when, he said, the Arabs were in fact united. He called for the government to adopt a national emergency programme and to set up a government of national unity with 10-12 ministers.

TWO PARTNERS in a sports ticket picked the results of all 13 games correctly last weekend, and will share first prize of IL501,420. Fourteen other persons, with 12 games right, won IL2,700 each. The prize for 11 winners was IL2,700, and 10 winners won IL230.

TV chiefs reject charges of bias in newsmagazine

By JUDY SIEGEL, Jerusalem Post Reporter

The Broadcasting Authority's board of directors declined yesterday to cancel the "Aki Koller" ("Behind the Headlines") TV programme or replace its host, despite charges that the show follows a "leftist line" and presents a "negative picture" of Israel.

The decision came in response to complaints by the public and by Dr. Eli Tavorin, a Likud representative on the board, against Yaron London's newsmagazine, which is broadcast live on Wednesday nights. Tavorin claimed that London's presentation during interviews is "tendentious," citing as an example the one of financier-turned-Knesset-candidate Samuel Platto Sharon, wanted for fraud in France.

Authority director-general Yitzhak Livni responded that the programme conforms to professional standards of objectivity. He defended the change from taped to live shows, saying that it improved the quality and "gave it a more interesting rhythm."

Meanwhile, the National Federation of Israel Journalists has decried a Broadcasting Authority decision to limit the entry into TV House of newspaper reporters who "cover" the authority.

The new policy, made with Livni's

Haifa lawyer charged with defrauding widow

HAIFA (Itim). — Local lawyer Moshe Gerstl was charged yesterday with defrauding a client — a widow with six children — and diverting to his own purposes IL25,000 of her money.

According to the prosecution, Gerstl, 65, was given IL20,000 to transfer to the widow for the leasehold of her late husband's butcher shop; but he only passed on IL5,000.

There's hope for a true change in Israel's political map!

Join Mahane Sheli!!

A union of:

Independent Socialists ★ Moked ★ Haolam Hazeh
★ Black Panthers ★ Public Personalities for Peace

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U.S. team leaves Hanoi after 'very tough' talks

HANOI (AP). — "It's been like writing a ballet with the final scene in the first act," Leonard Woodcock, the president of the giant United Auto Workers union said yesterday after having completed one of the most delicate missions he has undertaken in his long negotiating career.

He had flown to Vietnam last Sunday as the leader of the U.S. Presidential mission to "normalize" relations with a former enemy country and collect data on the fate of American servicemen missing in action during the war.

"Frankly, I was scared when I went in. I didn't know what to expect," recalled the generally taciturn union leader.

At the end of a week's tough negotiating the mission left Hanoi yesterday with the bodies of 11 pilots killed in action — one of the primary aims of the mission — and a good chance for further "normalization" of relations.

What Woodcock had publicly termed "constructive" after the first day's talks was not the case, he later revealed. Tough Vietnamese demands for economic aid and construction aid continued on Friday morning.

Woodcock sat intently, fingertips touching the table, listening as he had through many thousands of hours of union negotiations. He called for a private meeting.

"It was a crisis point," he later said. "I told Marian Edelman (another commission member) that if these were strike negotiations I'd predict collapse."

Woodcock met with his counterpart, Deputy Foreign Minister Phan Hien, whom he described as a "sharp and skilled negotiator." Asked what he told Hien, Woodcock replied: "If a State Department official had been there with me, he would have died 30,000 deaths."

He added: "From the beginning I had emphasized that our two countries were meeting as equals. I told them that this was the best group they could ever get from America, with men of the stature of former U.S. Senate majority leader Mike Mansfield, who is widely knowledgeable about the area. I told them that if they closed the door on us, then it might take 10 or 12 years before we were back."

When the full talks resumed after the private recess on Friday, the Vietnamese told the commission the pilots' remains would be given to them that afternoon. Hanoi also agreed to set up an office to receive information about other missing pilots on the understanding that the Presidential commission would carry back home the Vietnamese view that U.S. aid for reconstruction of Vietnam was a question of humanitarian principle.

Greco-Turkish tension renewed

ATHENS (Reuters). — Tension between Greece and Turkey rose yesterday as the Turkish fleet and air force planned to go ahead today with manoeuvres in the Aegean which the Greeks have described as an abuse of Turkish rights.

The exercises will be held inside Turkish and international waters near Greek Aegean islands and will last until March 28.

In a protest to Turkey, its Nato ally, Greece said last week that the manoeuvres would hamper navigation and air traffic in the area for a long time. Turkey rejected the protest.

The Greek armed forces, already in a state of preparedness because of strained relations with Turkey over territorial rights in the Aegean, were yesterday placed in a state of increased preparedness, an authoritative source said here.

IN BRIEF

Former SS officers to stand trial

BRUSSELS (JTA). — A distant relative of Admiral Canaris, the legendary head of the German Abwehr (Military Intelligence) is due to stand trial in Kiel, West Germany, for war crimes committed in Belgium.

Former SS Standartenfuhrer (Colonel) Konstantin Canaris will be tried together with former SS Obersturmbannfuhrer (Lt.-Colonel) Ernst Boje Ehlers and former SS Obersturmbannfuhrer (Lt.) Kurt Aache.

Plastics man freed

BELLUSCO, Italy (AP). — Italian industrialist Carlo Colombo, kidnapped on February 14, was freed yesterday after his family reportedly paid a one billion lire (\$1.6m.) ransom, police said. Colombo, co-owner of a plastics plant, told police he was treated well by his captors.

Eighteen persons have been kidnapped in Italy this year. Eleven are still in the hands of their abductors.

Patty's pal sentenced

OAKLAND, California (AP). — Wendy Yoshimura, one-time fugitive roommate of Patricia Hearst, was sentenced to one to 15 years in prison on Thursday on charges of possessing illegal weapons and explosives. Alameda County Superior Court Judge Martin Pulich ruled that the terms for the three counts on which she was convicted would run concurrently.

Austro-Jewish Museum

VIENNA (JTA). — The opening of an Austro-Jewish Museum in the former Jewish ghetto of Mauerstrasse, some 35 kilometres south of here, may be delayed for at least one year, political sources said here.

The museum will find its home in a house currently used by the Red Cross, which gave notice that it cannot move out of the building earlier than this spring.

Shocks for Indira in early poll results

NEW DELHI. — Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's Congress Party, facing its strongest political challenge since coming to power with independence 30 years ago, suffered serious reverses yesterday in the first results from national parliamentary elections.

The 59-year-old Prime Minister herself was trailing by 12,000 votes in her own constituency to her home state of Uttar Pradesh, according to the Indian National News Agency.

Her controversial 80-year-old son Sanjay, making his first bid for parliament, was lagging behind the opposition by about 20,000 votes in a constituency adjoining his mother's, the agency added.

As the four-day polling in 542 constituencies ended, early returns pointed to a strong showing by the new Janata (Peoples) Party, formed two months ago through the merger of four non-communist opposition groups.

The Janata claimed all seven Parliamentary seats in New Delhi, where its candidates built up two-to-one margins. In the 1971 elections, the Congress took all seven seats in the capital.

Samachar News Agency reported that the ruling party was trailing by margins of up to 21,000 votes in early counting for seats in the Punjab.

Shankar Dayal Sharma conceded defeat in the Madhya Pradesh capital of Bhopal. He was the first cabinet minister to lose his seat. But the Minister for Works and Housing, H.K.L. Bhagat, was trailing in Delhi.

External Affairs Minister Yashwantrao Chavan, Finance Minister Chidambaram Subramaniam and Health Minister Karan Singh were all leading by wide margins in their personal battles for parliamentary seats.

The Congress and the Janata Party shared the first six seats for which results were declared. The ruling party won two in Andhra Pradesh and one in the distant Lakshadweep Islands. The Janata Party won two seats in Madhya Pradesh and one in Bihar.

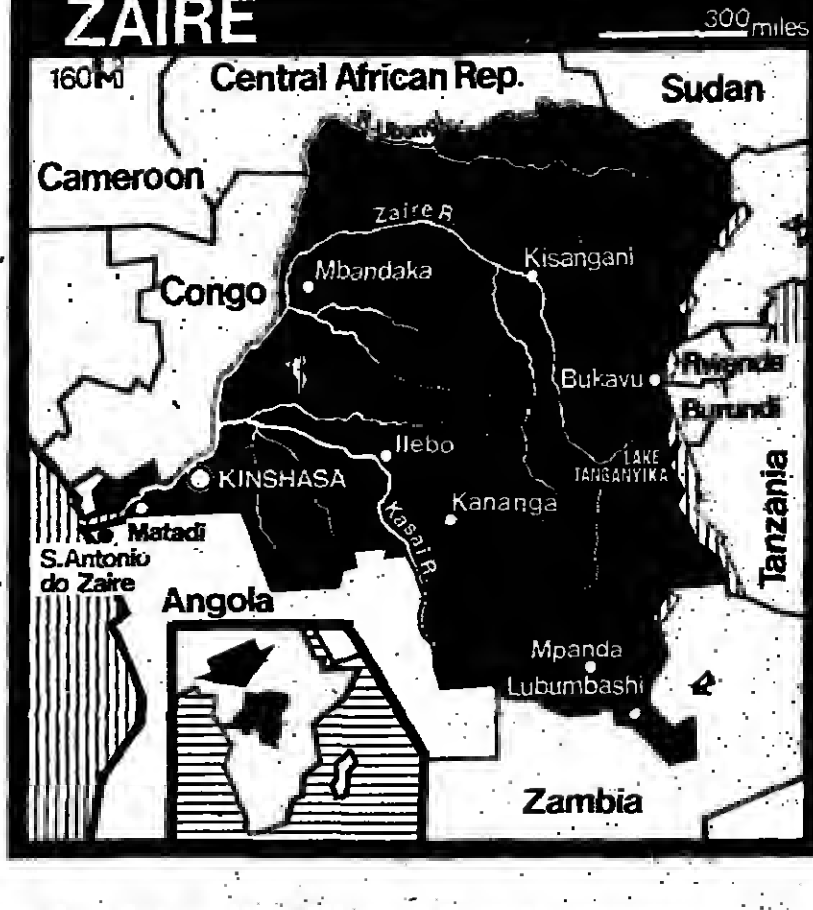
(AP, Reuters)

Juan Carlos, Sadat start formal talks

CAIRO (Reuters). — King Juan Carlos of Spain, who arrived on Saturday, and Egyptian President Anwar Sadat yesterday held formal talks on the Middle East situation and on ways to improve friendly relations between their two countries.

Before beginning the talks the two heads of state held a private 90-minute meeting without aides.

African battlefront moves to Zaire



WITH THE WORLD resigned to a continued Soviet-supported guerrilla struggle in Rhodesia, it is now treated to the spectacle of another war front opening in Africa, this time in Zaire.

In the superpower confrontation in Africa, American diplomacy has yet to keep up with the progress made by the Soviet hand which feeds African dissidents and revolutionaries, with arms. And where the Russians prefer not to show that hand, their puppets — such as Fidel Castro of Cuba, Samora Machel in Mozambique and Agostinho Neto in Angola — work assiduously for them.

Thousands of guerrillas, allegedly led by Cubans, are reported to have crossed into Zaire from Angola. A measure of how seriously this is viewed was the swiftness with which the U.S., France and Belgium responded to Zaire's call for aid. The invaders are said to be former Katanga gendarmes who fought in the Congo civil war in the 1960s, but fled to Angola when they were defeated.

At no time since the civil war has the Zaire regime of President Mobutu Sese Seko in the former Belgian Congo faced such anxious days. When Neto's Marxist MPLA swept the Zaire-backed factions from Angola last year, reports quickly followed of heightened activity of anti-Mobutu rebels inside Zaire.

THE ZAIREAN dissidents are composed of FODELICO (Forces Democratiques pour la Liberation du Congo) and PRP (Parti Revolutionnaire du Peuple). Both are leftist and support the ideals of Patrice Lumumba, the Congo's first premier who was assassinated in 1961 after Mobutu took power.

Lumumba's death sparked war over the secession of the copper-rich southern province of Katanga (now called Shaba) declared by Moise Tshombe, the man whom Congo leftists scornfully labelled "a white man with a black skin."

When Mobutu installed Tshombe as premier in a bid to end Katanga's secession, it led to an abortive revolt in Stanleyville (now Kisangani) by Lumumba's successor, Antoine Gizenga. Tshombe and head of state Joseph Kasavubu became involved in a power struggle and Mobutu finally took over full power in 1965.

Mexico to renew relations with Spain

SAN LUIS POTOSI, Mexico (UPI). — President Jose Lopez Portillo on Saturday said Mexico and Spain will soon establish diplomatic relations.

The president did not specify a timetable for the renewal of diplomatic ties, which were broken nearly 40 years ago when Generalissimo Francisco Franco took power after the Spanish Civil War.

The president made the remarks at a news conference after Mexico broke its relations on Friday with the Spanish Republic-in-exile.

Both Tshombe and Kasavubu are dead. Mobutu has a "one-party" regime, and the Lumumbists have been active underground ever since. Gizenga heads FODELICO; he has often been seen in Moscow, Paris and Geneva and claims to be in and out of Zaire. The PRP, led by Laurent Cabila, was involved in the kidnapping of foreign students in Tanzania and extorted a financial ransom from the U.S.

After Neto's Marxist victory in Angola it was only natural that the former Katanga gendarmes who took refuge in the former Portuguese colony would be equipped and trained by the Cubans. Now, one year later, they apparently have been deemed ready by the Kremlin to work more mischief in Africa's troubled south — even though they had belonged to Tshombe's nationalists, who were opponents of the leftist Lumumbists.

AFTER THE Angola failure, Mobutu attempted to make friends with his hostile "socialist" neighbours in Angola and Congo-Brazzaville. At first he tried to alarm the West about the possibility of a Cuban-Russian invasion from Angola, but he couldn't sell that idea. Most pointed to the strictly observed clause in the OAU Charter specifying African non-interference in the internal affairs of an African state.

But Katangans from Angola, plus the Lumumbists inside Zaire, are a different story. If a full-scale war again breaks out in Zaire, the OAU could only offer a conciliatory role. Zaire's vulnerability to Angola lies principally in its transport system, as a glance at the accompanying map shows. Angola could easily

landlock Zaire by blocking the Congo River mouth, closing down Zaire's only deep-water port of Matadi which is upriver. Zaire at present cannot use the vital Benguela railway across Angola to the Atlantic, which is still closed down. It has to send out its copper and minerals via the costly and slow route through Zambia and Rhodesia to South African ports.

From his beginnings as an obscure army sergeant and journalist, Mobutu — whose real name is Joseph Desire — has emerged as one of Africa's strong men. In the decade he steered his potentially rich country (copper, zinc, tungsten, manganese, silver, gold) into reasonable prosperity, he showed his antipathy for communism.

MOBUTU'S TROUBLES began after the steep oil rise, falling prices, and the 1974 Lisbon accord, which brought Marxism to neighbouring Angola. He renewed relations with France, Belgium, got the U.S. to pay loans (over \$85m. annually, military and economic aid), and that the U.S. and France added pro-West Angolan factions.

But many of Zaire's regions have now regressed to subsistence economy. Mobutu had a recent visit to China and North Korea with super-nationalistic ideas and an attitude of "Zairisation" of foreign businesses, which boomeranged his economy. He is now reversing process, which is why 11 national banks have reached \$800m. which Zaire owes them.

Mobutu's ties with the U.S. shifted after Kissinger's visit. Zaire could be included in moves in sub-Saharan Africa. Mobutu relies on his army of about 100,000 men and the U.S. apparently sees him now as a buffer against the new invasion. Time will tell whether Mobutu copes with the new invasion, whether his Western supporters are aware that Zaire could be another Angola.

Africa has been waiting for a next communist step. In the end, after the hecatomb in Angola, Zaire seems to have the next move surfaced on the eve of President Podgorny's visit to Brazzaville, Tanzania and Mozambique.

Backing of dissidents peril to peace, 'Pravda' asserts

MOSCOW (AP). — One week before the visit to Moscow of U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance, "Pravda" said yesterday that Western support for dissidents is a threat to world peace.

Without mentioning Vance or President Carter by name, the Communist Party newspaper said Western leaders who "ostentatiously give shelter to dissidents" are "dealing with warmongers and 'can be known' by the company they keep."

Wittingly or unwittingly, it said, dissidents undermine friendship between the two Great Powers, a situation that threatens strategic arms limitation and could lead to "the extinction of modern culture and civilization."

Vance arrives next weekend to meet with top Soviet leaders, with strategic arms limitation at the top of the agenda. Diplomatic sources in Moscow also said the topic of human rights in the USSR is likely to come up.

Although the Soviet media have been linking the human rights

debate to progress in strategic arms limitation talks (SALT), there has been no indication in the press that the Soviet Union is not prepared to sit down at the negotiating table, whatever the U.S. stand on dissidents.

In a second "Pravda" commentary, Western concern with human rights was depicted as an "orchestrated campaign by opponents of international cooperation."

"This campaign has nothing in common either with the question of rights or with the question of freedom," "Pravda" said. "It has unwavering political aims behind it, namely to stop or even to reverse the process of relaxation of international tensions."

Meanwhile, leaders of Amnesty International said in New York that Carter has helped the cause of human rights by recognizing that human rights violations are worldwide and must be tackled on an international basis.

237 police hurt at Saxony N-plant

GROENDE, West Germany (AP). — Some 237 policemen were injured in clashes with a communist-led mob at a nuclear power plant site on the Weser River, the Lower Saxony State Interior Ministry said yesterday.

Twenty-six persons, four of them women, were taken into custody Saturday during the three-hour battle between 5,000 nuclear power opponents and police guarding the fenced reactor site, the ministry said.

There were no official figures on

the number of demonstrators injured, but about 80 reportedly were treated in the nearby city of Hameln after the clash.

Police described the confrontation as "a civil-war-like test of radical forces" to occupy the year-old construction project. The demonstrators, many wearing masks and crash helmets, split away from a peaceful rally of 10,000 nuclear power opponents and broke through police barriers to reach the site.

'Ex-president' hired Ngonabi assassins

BRAZZAVILLE. — The Congolese government yesterday charged that the assassins of Congolese President Marien Ngonabi were hired by former President Alphonse Massamba-Debat, whom Ngonabi ousted in 1965.

Radio Brazzaville said Massamba-Debat was "hired by others" who "sought and subjected to harsh interrogation by the 11-man military committee which took temporary control of government after Ngonabi was slain on Friday. The radio called for merciless punishment for "blood-thirsty criminals" and "beheading" of all the enemies of the revolution.

It said Barthélemy Kikadi, former army captain who led the takeover on army headquarters on Friday, "was an influential member of the Massamba-Debat group."

Other persons opposed to Ngonabi-led government who were stationed in Paris also backed an abortive coup attempt, the radio said.

Massamba-Debat, a former school teacher, assumed power following a coup in 1965 and was himself ousted by Ngonabi in the autumn of 1965. Massamba-Debat recently written to Ngonabi suggesting resignation, the radio said, but Ngonabi replied that "no change whatsoever can be made outside the party."

In the wake of the assassination, the interim military government slapped strict controls on the press, closed the borders, imposed curfew and forbidding assemblies more than five people.

A former French colony, People's Republic of the Congo has a history of political trouble.

'Way back, when Arafat was a terrorist...' Senate foreign relations chairman favours recognizing PLO and state

JERUSALEM Post Correspondent NEW YORK. — Political analysts in the U.S. indicate that remarks made by the chairman of the influential Senate Foreign Relations Committee last month in a relatively obscure Arab journal may spell more difficulty ahead for American acceptance of Israel's case in the Middle East conflict.

In an interview with "Emirates News" published on February 27, Senator John Sparkman (Democrat, Alabama) stated he favours Palestinians at Geneva peace talks, economic aid for Egypt — but opposes any legislation in the Senate to outlaw the Arab boycott.

Observers are also studying Sparkman's remarks in which he said the U.S. attitude has long been that the "Palestine Liberation Organization was entitled to a home of its own," and are wondering how well that coincides with President Jimmy Carter's recent advocacy of a "homeland" for Palestinian refugees.

Here are excerpts from the controversial interview: Q: In an interview with you in 1975, you said that if the Palestinians organize a government, you would urge that they be recognized and given a state of their own. Arafat, I believe, said the Palestinians are considering establishing a government in exile. Would you urge the U.S. government to recognize the PLO?

A: I believe the U.S. attitude has been that the PLO was entitled to a home of its own. Now to go way back when Arafat was a terrorist, we had no sympathy with him and his terrorist whips. I think Arafat has moderated. He said he is willing to recognize Israel. I think he should

take part in the negotiations. If they are organized, and organize a state of their own, I would be in favour of our recognizing them.

Q: Do you think there will come a time when the Arabs are considered U.S. allies?

A: I see no reason why they shouldn't be. I consider Sadat, for instance, a good ally of the U.S. Now Egypt may be a different kind of ally, not necessarily the kind that exists between the U.S. and Britain, or West Germany, because there is no involvement or use of arms with Egypt. It's more a matter of being friendly and our being willing to help Egypt with its economy.

Q: The question of the boycott: If this (anti-boycott) legislation passes, there have been a number of experts who have said that this will cost several billion dollars and somewhere between 80,000 and 100,000 jobs. Has this really been studied by the people who are passing this legislation in Congress?

A: I don't know whether they have or not. I still don't believe the legislation will pass. But I have used a lot of Arab money in this country, in our banks, and want it to stay there. I want just as much of Arab money as we can get because it means good relations between the Arab countries and the U.S. and it will be profitable for both of us.

Q: Arabs do want to invest here. They want to have good friends and good economic relations and will continue to do so. It seems that there are some forces that are trying to block this.

A: I don't think they will succeed. Q: Will you vote against the (anti-boycott) legislation? A: I certainly will.

Q: Basically, all Israeli demands prior to the 1967 war are now met. However, the Israelis seem to have increased their demands. They only do they want recognition of peace, but they demand territories occupied during the war. Will pressure on the U.S. apply change the situation?

A: I understand the situation such that Israel would be willing to negotiate a settlement on the basis that were taken in the 1967 war, but to work out an agreement.

A: Carter has several ideas in his mind and he has a number of very prescient advisers. As you know, constitution of the U.S. places creation of foreign policy in hands of the executive branch government. The Senate's role is to advise and help shape that policy. I think Carter is moving the direction of bringing the various sides together. I would not like to make any suggestions at this point which might be taken to be variance with his policies, which support.

Q: Secretary of State Vance recently said there are some 100 on how to include the Palestinians in the negotiations. What are your ideas on this question?

A: There was some idea of having them join in the Geneva conference. I would like to see them there. Geneva conference where this could be settled. I wish they could settle through negotiations — right the wrongs themselves and I believe it is possible.

Q: Do you believe that there should be a Palestinian delegation at the Geneva conference?

A: I would be in favour of it.

There's Nothing New Under the Sun

What there is—and isn't—in the DMC List

- We've been hearing about DMC's democracy for the last half a year. That there's nothing like it in the world. We've been waiting for the results for a half a year. Thesuspense has been killing us. And now, at last, the mountain has turned into a molehill. There's nothing new under the sun. All the well-known people were elected. All the members of the establishment were elected. All the "oldies" were elected. Ex-MKs, Ex-Directors General, Ex-Generals, Ex-Judges. All the representatives of Afeka, Zahala, Herzliya Pituah and Rehavia — the high class neighbourhoods of Tel Aviv and Jerusalem — were elected.
- Not elected — Representatives from Oriental communities and new immigrants were not given realistic chances.
- Not elected — Representatives of development towns and underprivileged neighbourhoods.
- Not elected — Representatives of the Galilee, Negev and frontier settlements.
- Not elected — Representatives of the working settlements, particularly the new ones.
- Not elected — Representatives of places of work and professional unions.
- Not elected — Representatives of the younger generation.
- Not elected — No woman was given a realistic chance.

There's not a trace of any of these people in the Knesset list. They've simply been wiped off the face of the map. The results of the DMC elections have finally shown it in its true colours. Now there is no longer any doubt that the DMC represents only the narrowness of the upper classes. And on Election Day the truth will emerge — that DMC has no foothold among the masses.

EMET

The Labour Party-Mapam Alignment

התעורר מכללת העבודה-החיים

החיים-העבודה

A heavy burden of aiding the bereaved

By GLOBA DEUTSCH / Special to The Jerusalem Post

RIT, a softly-spoken girl in her twenties, is leaving her job as a social worker with the Ministry of Defense because she just can't take more. There and a half year of dealing with bereaved families has made her frustrated and unbalanced. "I can't sleep at night for crying about them," she says, her eyes filling with tears. When it is suggested that perhaps she is not personally suited to the work, she denies this angrily.

She has helped many people build lives and they trust me," she says, "but we were taught at university that it is possible to treat 50 families a month. I have 350 families to care for and there simply isn't enough time to devote to their grief."

Manpower shortages, the national stress of the job itself and inadequate pay are making social workers in general dissatisfied. But Dorit stays in her job if only for the money. For her the dislocation extends to the Defense Ministry which she feels is too ready to give material compensation, and she comes to realize that her own behaviour patterns often reflect her.

Immediately after the war our country was to visit the bereaved families, just to sit with them and about their loss. I had to absorb their anger, their grief. In their eyes I represented the army which had taken their son, their husband, their father to his death, so they would speak to me and about it."

That was the first reaction, especially of the Oriental Jews who were able to let themselves go. The German and Polish would not show their true feelings. Later on I broke mentally under their grief. The widows, sabras, most of them, would try to control themselves at first, speaking in a calm rational way, but as they got to know me their words would come out."



(M. Freidman)

These reactions had been predictable and she was able to cope with them. What she finds harder to take are the often-repeated demands for money and material compensation, especially from the people accustomed to receiving welfare.

"They come and bang on my desk and demand flats for themselves and their remaining children, and large sums of money. One man whose son was killed during an exercise came and demanded two flats. I asked him why he only wanted two — was that all his son was worth? He broke down and wept."

She feels that the Defense Ministry has aggravated the problem by giving too much.

"It is quite right that a widow should have a pension and that we should help her train for a profession and educate her children. But the Ministry has been paying for ballet and piano lessons for the children too, making the families too dependent instead of helping them to rebuild their lives. They become incapable of taking the smallest decision and turn to the social worker for everything."

A spokesman at the Defense Ministry explained the policy of support given to bereaved families.

"When the breadwinner was alive the family enjoyed a certain standard of living and the burden of maintaining that standard falls on us. This means that until recently we were financing certain fringe benefits like ballet and piano lessons for particularly gifted children. Now we give a global payment which includes all necessary expenses and the widow can spend the money as she sees fit."

A widow with two children receives IL\$3,800 a month, roughly the equivalent of a government official in the middle to senior echelons. She also gets all educational expenses, including books, as well as health insurance and the right to buy a car tax-free. The amount, which is fixed by law, is linked to the cost-of-living index, and the Ministry of Defense has an annual budget of over one billion pounds, soon to be increased.

As to the shortage of staff, the Ministry admits that although there is not enough qualified manpower, all the posts in the department are in fact filled, and only an increase in establishment will solve the overwork problem.

It was really only after the Yom Kippur War that social services for the bereaved were organized on a large scale and time was given to the administrative difficulties. But three and a half years after the war personal problems refuse to be solved.

One of the commonest is that of the young widow who becomes obsessed with guilt when she starts going out with another man. "They feel they're being unfaithful," explained Dorit.

Then there are the mothers who cannot manage the children, the father whose will to live has gone, parents who won't leave the house, others who can't stay in the house. There are the people who blame themselves, racked with guilt because the relationship with the dead one was not a happy one, or the others who look for someone else to blame.

Bereaved parents from the kibbutzim present another problem. They want nothing for themselves, but would like an expensive memorial for their son, such as a library in his name. If the kibbutz does not agree, Dorit has to act as a go-between for the conflicting sides.

Frustration through overwork and the burden of grief are driving Dorit away and she feels others will follow. "Whenever we get a telegram informing us of a new loss through accident, the first reaction nowadays amongst all of us is 'Thank heavens it's not in my area,'" she says.

Her feeling now is that it's better not to do social work at all than to do it badly and ineffectively because of lack of time. She will come back when conditions improve and she can give to each case the individual attention it deserves and needs.

But she will not find many to support her theory of "giving too much." Said one bereaved father who heads a local "Yad LeBanim" on behalf of 180 bereaved families: "How can you give too much to people who gave everything? To argue about one flat or two is irrelevant. The whole land belongs to them."

A landmark for fashion passes in Jerusalem

By JOANNA YERIEL / Jerusalem Post Reporter

THE CLOSING of Revell's fashion shop, on the corner of Rehov Shlomo Hamalech and Rehov Shlomo Hamalech, means that 34 years of providing Jerusalem's women with high quality clothes have come to an end.

Revell's (as near to "Robe-belle" as possible) was opened in 1943, on the same site, by Shlomo and Lotte Chocner together with an Arab partner. Chocner had pioneered the women's fashion trade in 1938; his Tel Aviv and Haifa branches closed when he opened the Jerusalem store.

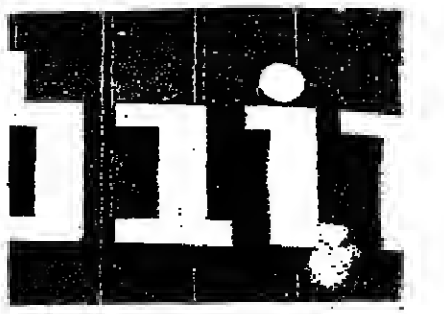
He was, he thinks, the first person to organize a fashion show in Palestine. It was held in 1934 at the King David Hotel. All the VIPs of the British Mandate turned up. And so Revell's fashion trade began. The store was for fashion virtually all the clothes displayed at the fashion parade. At that time, Mr. Chocner remembers, he also sold very exclusive gowns made in Vienna to members of the consular corps in Haifa — at £100 each!

In 1945, a Revell branch opened in Beirut. As well as selling clothes made in Palestine under the Revell label, a number of Jewish salesgirls went from Jerusalem to Beirut to serve in the shop. They were cut in 1947, of course.

After that time, the Chocners sent their clothes for sale in Lebanon and Syria via Cyprus. "The Lebanese women were very elegant. They would pay anything for good dresses or shoes — very exclusive ladies." Meanwhile, the Jerusalem shop in what was no man's land in 1947, became the exclusive property of the Arab partner — until 1949, when it reverted to the Chocners — what was left of it.

"Our soldiers attacked after reaching the border secretly by smashing holes through all the shops in Rehov Shlomo Hamalech — including ours," Mr. Chocner said. "When we got our shop back, there was a gigantic hole, there, in that wardrobe."

So the Chocners were finally



back in business in what was now Israel, selling "high priced, good clothes" to Jerusalem women. "Because we were away from the centre of the town, we had regular clients, people who came to us again and again. We had grandmothers, mothers and daughters from one family as customers."

Why are they closing the shop now? As chairman of the executive committee of Alyn Hospital, for the past 27 years Mr. Chocner has become more and more involved in fund-raising, and he now wants to give all his time to aiding the hospital.

"We're stopping while we're healthy and able," Mrs. Chocner said. "We're giving up while we're ahead. But it hasn't been only a business — it's been a love affair, too."

Israeli Entebbe is best of the bunch

"OPERATION THUNDERBOLT" Directed by Menachem Golan. Starring Sybil Danning, Klaus Kinski, Yehoram Gaon and Assad Dayan (Shahar, Kikar Atarim, Tel Aviv).

THE ISRAELI MADE film of the Entebbe rescue operation is a good movie, and so much better than the two American versions already seen here as to make it worthwhile taking a third round-trip by cinema to Uganda.

The stars of the film are believable Israelis, whether soldiers or hostages. They are portrayed with their Israeli characteristics intact, but without becoming stereotyped heroes or campy "kibbutzniks."

From the opening with soldiers practising for an attack on a high-jacked aircraft, the pace is brisk. The knowledgeable audience is not forced to wait out lengthy negotiations, but are flown straight into the Golan version of how the terrorists got aboard and seized the aircraft. The flight to Benghazi and then to Entebbe is short, with Sybil Danning, the woman terrorist, getting her first chance to hit someone and Klaus Kinski, the lead male terrorist already doubtful of his role as an "Arab" freedom fighter.

At Entebbe the characters are allowed some depth. Gila Almagor, an actress playing an actress, brings out the warmth and strength of the hostages as she helps to calm and cure the weaker folk. During the selection scene, she displays great dignity, and she is rewarded by the warmest moment of the film, when a small non-Jewish boy brings her, under the terrorists' guns, a farewell present. The "selection" is poignant, but not tear-jerking. When Mark Heath comes in as Idi Amin, the audience is ready for something special, but they are disappointed.

Yehoram Gaon plays "Yoni" as believably as possible. "Yoni" is a man who is a leader, not an Israeli saint. The attack comes on schedule, is fierce and exciting, even though the soldiers don't wear helmets. The terrorists die in a bloody, well executed hall of bullets.

The scenery, photography and the long list of Israeli stars, make up for the few small mistakes and occasional overshooting of scenes. "Operation Thunderbolt" is an enjoyable movie worth seeing.

It is showing at the new, 710 seat Shahar Theatre at Kikar Atarim. L.J.M.

Ex-president hired Ngoma assassins

ILIZED nations thousands of years ago collected herbs and used them as food, medicines, perfumes, cosmetics. They also burned them in temples and mixed them with sacred oil for anointing kings and priests.

The Bible mentions many herbs and their uses. In ancient Egypt herbs such as onions and garlic were used as preventives of diseases and against epidemics. According to a hieroglyphic on the pyramid of Khufu, the lives of thousands of Egyptians were saved through the daily consumption of onions.

Today we know that the antibiotic penicillin, derived from a fungus, has brought about the victory against bacteria diseases. The Israelites probably brought their knowledge of medicinal herbs and onion-growing from Egypt, and Jews use those vegetables in most of their meals to this day. They also use a number of other herbs in the Pessah seder.

The first "book" about herbs was written in 1837 by a German naturalist, Georg Ebers, who dug up a 20 m. papyrus sheet in Egypt. It dates from 1538 B.C.E. The famous Greek physician, Hippocrates (460 - 377 B.C.E.) also wrote a book about medicinal herbs, mentioning watercress, mustard and sage (salvia), and opobatrass of Erosus (370 B.C.E.), a pupil of Plato and Aristotle, completed this book by describing a wide variety of other herbs, mentioning for the first time the flybuck (althea — Hebr. amith).

During the Middle Ages, all kinds of herbs were grown, mostly in monasteries and church gardens. Most of our herb plants are natives of the Mediterranean region and the wild in most of Israel today.

One of the most important uses of herbs is to improve the taste of your cooking. You can grow herbs in your garden, on the window-sill of your house or in plant containers on your kitchen balcony. If you plant herbs in the garden, it must be accessible quickly and easily from the kitchen. If there is no specially paved path to the spot, lay flat stones or tiles, so as to get to herbs easily in bad weather. A garden is not only a handy place for growing and flavouring herbs, but also offers protection against certain damaging insects. For instance, with its strong musky smell, it planted near windows and doors, will keep ants out of house.

You can start herbs from seed in a pot or plastic covered seedbox or in a frame, or you can try to get them from a nursery.

Most herbs are easy to grow, and you cut them for use, they will grow again. When you later let them grow to maturity and seed production, they will multiply rapidly and you have plenty of extra plants, which you can give to your friends and neighbours.

Herbs do not require a rich or special soil. They will do well in your treated garden soil if they grow in

GARDENER'S CORNER / Walter Frankl

Kitchen herbs

A sunny place and get sufficient moisture. To feed the tender, young plants with chemical fertilizers is somewhat dangerous, but the best you can do for them is to mix a sifted, water-soluble compost powder with water (1:8) and use this solution as a food-supply. Remove the head piece of your watercress and pour freely in between the plant rows 2-3 times during the season.

The most common kitchen herbs used in this country are: parsley, dill, celery, marjoram, basil, sage, chives, coriander, thyme, garden cress, savory, mint, garlic and rosemary.

All of them, except the last three, may be grown in the following way:



Make shallow trench with hoe along stretched string.



Space seeds as recommended for the kind. Mix fine ones with sand or sawdust for better distribution.



Draw soil thinly over seeded row with rake and tamp lightly to settle.

Start sowing after all danger of frost is over, at the end of March (in Jerusalem and other hilly regions, the first half of April will be suitable) — in drills 1-2 cm. deep and with a distance of 20 cm. from row to row. Cover with sand or sandy soil (or vermiculite). Tamp the covered rows with your rake and water carefully with a can 2-3 times a week. The time of germination differs. Garden-cress, for instance, will come out in 4-6 days, but parsley needs 2-3 weeks. When the seedlings are large enough (8-10 cm. high), thin them out to 8-10 cm. between plants. Keep the rows free of weeds and cultivate the soil weekly for aeration.

Garlic is propagated by cloves (bulblets). Buy a garlic bulb at the greengrocer, take off its white, papery skin and divide it into many cloves. Each clove is a potential seed. Plant them (base-side downwards) 2 cm. deep in rows at a distance of 25 cm. Rosemary and mint are grown from cuttings. Rosemary is a tall-growing, perennial shrub, which needs a space of half a metre between plants. It is best planted as a background shrub or as a border around the herb garden. Mint should be planted with 20 cm. between cuttings and 40 cm. from row to row. It will soon cover every space, making a green carpet over the topsoil — creeping in all directions.

Parsley requires special mention, being the most widely used of all kitchen herbs in soups, salads, vegetables and meat dishes. We know different kinds of parsley: the very common plain or single one, grown for its strong flavour; the root parsley, mostly used for soups and for canned, mixed vegetables; and the moss curled parsley, a popular, decorative variety for garnishing purposes. You can harvest parsley by cutting it 2-3 times during the season, but when it starts to produce flowers and seeds, the leaves will become bitter.

There are also several kinds of celery. If you are interested in celery leaves for soups or vegetable dishes, you may follow the advice for herb growing mentioned above. If you want the fleshy, thick celery root, you need special seeds of root celery (celeriac). This kind needs more space (thin out to 30 cm. from plant to plant and keep a space of half a metre from row to row). The leaf celery may also be blanched by heaping soil around the plant for 10 or more days, allowing the top leaves only to be uncovered. The blanching excludes light from the main stem and stops the production of chlorophyll. This will also produce a stronger "heart" of the plant.

Chives and dill are the most sensitive of herb plants and more difficult to grow.

I strongly recommend the use of garden-cress (Hebr. rashad). This mustard-like herb grows so quickly, that you will be able to harvest it (for use in salads, soups, etc.) only a fortnight after sowing.

IN MEMORIAM: Norman Jacobs

Complete devotion to the community

NORMAN JACOBS, who died suddenly in Tel Aviv this month, was one of the active leaders of British Zionism who responded immediately to the challenge of Israel's independence in 1948 by coming on to the scene from Manchester with his wife and children.

He was Manchester born and bred, educated at Manchester Grammar School and Manchester University. When his business affairs took him to South Africa, he became an active Zionist in Port Elizabeth and on returning to Manchester some years later soon assumed a leadership position in local Zionism.

His textile export office in the centre of Manchester became a focus of communal service. There was a Jewish Zionist committee on which Norman did not serve. As honorary Secretary for many years, and later as chairman of the Manchester Zionist Central Council, he effectively coordinated Zionist cultural and fund-raising activities

by those who worked with him at Peikot on the arrangement of international congresses in Israel. As a perfectionist, he demanded a great deal from himself and therefore could always elicit equal performance from his co-workers. While his brother Julius was serving with great distinction in the Palestine Mandatory Administration in Jerusalem, Norman soon ranked amongst the outstanding members of the corps of Zionist volunteers who built up the world Zionist movement in the pre-State period.

His devotion to Judaism and Zionism was shared by his life-partner Sybil — herself a prominent Wizo leader — and his son and daughter who made their home in Israel. Together with so many who knew him, I felt it was a great privilege to have been associated in Zionist work with a colleague of such loyalty and integrity. We shall long remember him.

LUCIEN HARRIS

chag sameach

at

גן המזון

Reductions for Pessah

Matzot, 2½ kg. (package)	IL 8.98	IL 8.49
Potato Flour, 400 gr. (bag)	IL 4.30	IL 3.85

Carmel Mizrahi		Regular Price	Reduced Price
777 Brandy	620 ml.	29.95	26.75
Savoy Brandy	750 ml.	43.70	38.75
President Wine	750 ml.	31.70	28.75
Victory Wine	750 ml.	13.20	11.75
Grenache/Cabernet			
Semillion/Sauvignon Wines	750 ml.	14.50	12.75

Elite		Regular Price	Reduced Price
Cric Crac Chocolate	300 gr.	19.35	17.25
Chocolate Toffee	150 gr.	3.85	3.35
Praline Bonboniere	250 gr.	26.40	23.55

Pazchem		Regular Price	Reduced Price
Ritz-Paz	1 litre	5.40	4.75
Ritz-Paz	3 litres	14.50	12.45
Paztox 24	aerosol	15.50	13.25

Fish and Frozen Meat		Regular Price	Reduced Price
Sliced Bakala	1 kg.	18.10	16.00
Young Bakala	1 kg.	16.75	15.00
Sliced Tunit		14.95	13.20
Brisket of Beef	1 kg.	30.10	26.00
Spondra	1 kg.	24.90	21.90

Fruit and Vegetables		Regular Price	Reduced Price
Potatoes	1 kg. loose	IL 3.40	bag. IL 3.70
Onions	1 kg. loose	IL 3.10	bag. IL 3.40

Assis Fruit Squashes		Regular Price	Reduced Price
Lemon/Orange/Mandarine		5.65	4.85
Raspberry/Cherry		7.55	6.50
Sweet and Sour/Apricot		7.35	6.35
Cola/Pineapple		7.35	6.35
Apple		8.15	6.95

Yachin		Regular Price	Reduced Price
Tomato Juice	560 gr.	2.00	1.39
Grapefruit Slices	560 gr.	2.65	1.99
Orange Slices	560 gr.	2.65	1.99

Sliced Pineapple		Regular Price	Reduced Price
	820 gr.	8.30	7.25

Hogla		Regular Price	Reduced Price
"Lily" Napkins 25 (34 x 34)		4.15	3.25
"Iris" Napkins 120		8.70	6.95

Choice American Liver		Regular Price	Reduced Price
Chicken Drumsticks	1 kg.	18.60	16.00
Sliced Saithe Fillets	400 gr.	10.30	8.90
Beef Ribs	1 kg.	31.60	27.40
Shoulder of Beef	1 kg.	32.60	29.40

Supermarket

JERUSALEM CO-OP

CHAIN OF SUPERMARKETS IN JERUSALEM, BET SHEMESH AND MEVASSERET ZION

True to the Covenant

WHATEVER the Palestine National Council may have done during its week-long deliberations in Cairo that merits attention is surely overshadowed by what it failed to do. It failed — if that is the right word — to amend the PLO's National Covenant.

On the face of it, this is somewhat puzzling. Among non-Arab friends of the PLO, especially, there had been fairly wide expectation that a revision would in fact be undertaken at the session which ended yesterday.

True, the Covenant has often been likened by its adherents in the degree of its sanctity to nothing less than the Bible. Yet such divine revelation as that document possesses did not prevent the rewriting of its 1964 original in 1968. Thus there was no intrinsic bar to a new rewriting this year.

The 1968 version of the Covenant was defiant response to the Arab debacle in the Six Day War. It was an uncompromising declaration of war to the finish against Israel — and the Jewish people of Israel, all of them, that is, except the handful who "were living permanently in Palestine until the beginning of the Zionist invasion." That invasion, according to the PLO's authoritative interpretation, took place in 1917.

Slowly, however, it began to dawn on the leaders of the PLO that their fanatically genocidal aims were a trifle hard to sell — at least in their original form — not only in the bourgeois West, but even in the socialist East. That is how the slogan "secular and democratic state" came to be minted.

The world-wide terror campaign unleashed by the PLO, so it was explained, was not aimed at the wholesale expulsion of all the Jews from Palestine. Its real purpose was merely to replace the "racist, colonialist" State of Israel with a democratic Arab state of Palestine in which "Jews, Moslems and Christians" could live peacefully side by side.

In 1971 the PLO's National Council, its so-called parliament, gave formal approval to this new formula.

Three years later, the Council made a further practical revision in the PLO's programme when it allowed for the achievement of the final Palestinian goals by stages. The last stage remained an Arab Palestine; but the first could now be a Palestinian "political authority" in the areas evacuated by Israel in a settlement with its neighbours.

Because the "Rejection Front" spurned this pragmatism as defeatism, the PLO's new tactics were widely hailed as a demonstration of true moderation, and as a willingness to abandon the earlier uncompromising stand. Israel, it was being argued — even by some Israelis — should now reciprocate, by dealing with the PLO.

There remained, of course, the little matter of the Covenant. If the PLO had, indeed, reformed itself, why should it not make the fact incontrovertible by the appropriate revision of the Covenant — its supremely binding document?

At a seminar in Baghdad late last year, a PLO stalwart, Nebil Dha'ab, predicted that this would indeed be done at the coming session of the Council. And Secretary of State Cyrus Vance warned in Jerusalem this month that, if it were not, the U.S. would not agree to the PLO's participation in the resumed Geneva conference.

Now the Council has come and gone, and the Covenant has not had one iota removed from or added to it. There are good reasons for this.

First, the overwhelming majority of participants, "hardliners" as well as "softliners," still swear by the Covenant; it embodies their authentic strategic goals. Secondly, even those who might lean to the view that revision would be salutary, doubtless agreed that it was not worth a split in the ranks. Moreover, attachment to the Covenant has not prevented the PLO from winning its political victories, and it need not be an impediment in the future.

Why, only this week, even as the spirit of intraspecificity was clearly manifesting itself at the Council, President Carter came out with a statement which, while not yet meeting the wishes of the PLO even half way, was encouraging enough for Yasser Arafat to respond with the assurance that he "trusts" Carter.

Mr. Carter, for his part, can trust Arafat to be true to his Covenant.

List to the Left

DEMOCRATIC ELECTIONS, especially in a fragmented society such as Israel's, may often lead to results which defy all interpretation of the "will of the electorate." Thus, any development which promises even a semblance of clarity in a confused electoral map is welcome.

The merger of several personal and splinter groupings on Israel's Left-Peace front into the Israel Peace and Equality alliance — Sheili — is such a development. The fact that the personalities who are to head its Knesset list — Lova Ellav, Meir Pa'il and Uri Avneri — have finally been able to overcome their self-centred interests and agree on the composition of the list, and their own positions in it, in itself warrants a measure of respect.

There is irony in the fact that a grouping which favours heroic Israel overtures in the direction of the PLO, as a first step towards an Arab-Israeli peace, was established in the very week in which the PLO formally reaffirmed its undying hostility to the right of Jewish national self-determination. It would seem that the forces that have now come together represent not so much political strategy as a cast of mind. Nothing that the PLO can do or say, it would seem, will deflect these men from pursuing their hope of "compelling" the Arabs to make peace in response to total Israel withdrawal from the administered areas, and to Israel agreement to the setting up of a Palestinian mini-state.

Although this way of thinking is unlikely to attract a large vote, it is desirable that it should have the opportunity to present its platform clearly to the electorate.

It will be interesting to observe the effectiveness of the peace issue — joined to the issue of social equality — as cement in overcoming the centrifugal personal tendencies among the new group's leaders.

No less interesting will be to discover the source from which it will seek its support.

A shifting of votes from one splinter party on the Left to another will leave little mark on Israel politics. There is a possibility, however, that the Peace-and-Equality list will attract votes from the disaffected members of Mapam who are still smarting from their party's decision to continue its alliance with the Labour Party. This might mean an additional loss of seats for the Labour Alignment, and greater difficulties in the formation of a government coalition after May 17.

ISRAEL PRESS

Shouldn't panic about 'homeland'

DAVAR (Histadrut) comments on President Carter's reference to the need for a homeland for the Palestinian refugees. "There is no reason for Israel to panic following every remark made by the President on the Middle East. This does not mean that his words are not intrinsically important or that their significance should not be analysed, but that there is no objective need for alarm at every remark not entirely favourable to Israel.

"The issue is not what the President said on any particular occasion, but the general direction of U.S. policy, and it is clear that the present administration, just like its predecessor, is firmly resolved to create impetus for negotiations in the Middle East to offset stalemates. Israel, too, is interested in progress and so long as Washington and Jerusalem are agreed on the need to arrive at talks between the parties involved, without enforced solutions, there is a basis for cooperation in

seeking a settlement." AL HAMISHMAR (Mapam) condemns the Likud for its hysterical reaction to President Carter's remark and says that the President, in his public comments, appears to be maintaining a delicate balance — with some statements pleasing to Israel and others to the Arabs. "There is no need to go to extremes in reacting," the paper asserts.

"But it would be a mistake to ignore that President Carter is currently in the process of formulating his policy. In this process, he bases himself on certain basic premises which have not yet been revealed. Until this secret is revealed, Israel should not remain passive, but should clearly state her view that a solution to the refugee problem and the Palestinian identity should be sought in negotiations with Jordan, on the basis of a Jordanian-Palestinian state, whose western borders are determined by agreement with Israel."

Out with higher learning

ISRAEL'S universities, those parasitical institutions of useless learning, are finally dying.

Where students used to overcrowd classrooms, bedraggled lecturers now address one or two people; laboratories and equipment are gathering dust, libraries that were the best between Rome and Tokyo have sharply reduced their intake of books, not to mention their opening hours.

After 25 years in which faculty did nothing, its younger members are now being dismissed in droves and, even better, driven into emigration. Their elders lost 40 per cent of their real income and are forced to engage in moonlighting instead of wasting their time on research. Already at present, scientific work is declining in quality and quantity, which may be a good thing for it is well known that such work never produces anything but useless tomes on dusty shelves.

Of course, the more important parts of the universities continue to prosper. Though space for faculty is as cramped as ever, entire new campuses sprung up in recent years. The number of secretaries, offices, desks and telephones has, if anything, increased.

Thanks to this country's excellent laws, administrative staff get their tenure after a year's service while faculty must often work as much as ten years only to be dismissed for having written one book instead of three. This is perfectly proper, for a look at my own university (Jerusalem) is enough to show that its real function is to keep the administrative workers in a job — and that everything else is only an ancillary function, not to say an embarrassment.

GIVEN these splendid achievements, should we mourn the loss of a little knowledge? Among my students there are some who question whether it is right for the State to subsidize their love for such useless subjects as history, art or drama. These doubts are fully justified.

If somebody wants to study, say, Egyptology, who can prevent him from going ahead? But don't expect the State to pay the State needs the money to buy F-15's. They are the vital thing, and should we wake up one day and find that nothing but F-15's are left to us, we won't regret it. As Rav-Aluf Motta Gur has said, a

The starving of the country's universities over the past several years has achieved great results, but goes nowhere far enough, in the opinion of MARTIN VAN CREVELD. With the authority of a history lecturer at the Hebrew University, he therefore offers some suggestions for hastening the process.

country that has these planes is very different from one which doesn't. This happy day is not far off.

The universities, as one Knesset Member so rightly pointed out, continue to receive a bigger share of national resources — as against the number of students — than do creches and elementary schools. This is absurd and should be stopped.

Everyone knows that the cultural needs of Israeli adults are no greater than those of infants — neither groups need anything but TV thrillers. At the present rate, the contribution of our universities to human knowledge will soon approximate that of nursery school. Training doctors costs, or at any rate should cost, no more than teaching my 5-year-old about Pesach. In any case, our medical services are too good already, and the best we can do with our Bright Young Men is to send them to the U.S.

The universities, moreover, make no contribution to Israeli life. Our government ministries do not need academics, and academics are in fact deserting them in growing numbers. The standards of our elementary and high schools will surely rise once there are no longer universities to train their teachers. As to the army — its record in recent years is such as to make it unnecessary for it to listen to the voices of academics, either foreign or local. That the Knesset does not need academics is, of course, proved by the high level of parliamentary debate.

READERS' LETTERS

SUPPORT FOR BEGIN

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post

Sir, — The Israeli public should thank President Carter and the U.S. State Department for the frank revelations this week of their stand regarding our final borders, arms manufacture, etc. A short while ago it had seemed that Rabbinowitz, the U.S. ambassador, was engaged to promote him, and the Labour Party's prospects in the forthcoming elections. Instead, the visit has succeeded in hammering one more, hopefully final, nail in their political coffin, after so many years of incompetent "leadership."

What Israel desperately needs in these times is a courageous, self-assured leader who is unwaveringly dedicated to the realization of the Zionist goal, and who has the steadfastness of purpose, the intellectual ability and the force of personality required to undo the damage already done.

The Arab lands — from Egypt with its Sadat, Syria with its Assad, Jordan with its Hussein, on down the 20-nation list — are led by tough, intransigent extremist leaders, experienced in the art of demanding the most and conceding nothing. In facing such a phalanx, we in Israel need an equally intransigent leader: otherwise all the compromise will be expected and extracted only from us.

There is only one national figure who commands the respect, respect and admiration of so many of us, who can restore our self-confidence and our ability to withstand pressures — and that is Menachem Begin. We have waited for the eventualty of his becoming Prime Minister of Israel for three long decades. Let us hope that his finest hour is at hand.

MENACHEM BLOCH
Givatayim

DIRTY TOILETS

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post

Sir, — As a semi-annual tourist since 1962, subscribable to The Jerusalem Post (which is an excellent newspaper) and active participant in Israel Bonds Drives, I am appalled to note with chagrin the unimproved conditions of the toilets in Israel.

The hotel toilets in the lobbies, regardless of category, reek and stink are far from clean. Restaurants are notorious for having filthy, smelly, dark and unlit areas for one of the essential functions of life. Canteens all over the country have disgusting toilets in the yard for which a special key is necessary, mind you.

How can the Ministry of Health permit such conditions to go on? It is about time they look into this matter. With the filth in summer, these conditions will only breed disease.

How is a licence granted to a hotel or restaurant without inspection of toilet facilities? It is an obligation, under penalty of the law, for the citizen, tourist and workers within an establishment to have a decent, clean, well-lit and comfortable toilet. It is neglect on the part of the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Tourism not to invoke stiff penalties and revoke operation of these establishments until amends are made.

LOUIS J. ROSENFIELD, M.D.
Tel Aviv (New York).

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ELECTORAL REFORM

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post

Sir, — In your editorial of March 13 on the Labour Party's efforts to bring the electoral reform bill to a vote in the Knesset, you talk of "an obvious electoral ploy" and an "election-eve change of heart by parties who have done their best to prevent electoral reform over the past 20 years."

It should be made clear that these strictures cannot, by any stretch of imagination or malice, be applied to the Israel Labour Party (previously Mapai), which has carried on the struggle for electoral reform since the first Knesset. It is only as a result of its persistence that it is now possible to bring the matter to a vote with the support of three-quarters of the House.

The urgency of the Labour Party's recent efforts to ensure that the bill get a first reading is due to the premature disposal of the Knesset and the fact that agreement with other parties on the text of the bill was only reached a short time ago.

DAVID BRESLAU
Jerusalem.

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POSTSCRIPTS

IF YARON LONDON expected some kind of Margaret Trudeau — or Martha Mitchell — confession of the trials and tribulations of a public man's (woman's) wife (husband) when he selected his visitors for Wednesday night's "Alei Hokeret" television programme, he was in for a disappointment. And so were we.

The spouse of Dr. Yosef Burg (referred to constantly by Yaron as Mr. Burg), Arlik Sharon, and Shulamit Aloni all came across as good Zionists, finding it actually exhilarating to be a politician's wife (husband). The only aspect of his wife's career that disturbed Reuven Aloni — as well it might — were those telephone calls at 2 a.m. by religious zealots threatening to murder their sons if Shulamit didn't stop doing this or that.

But the two women in the group were just thrilled to bits at their role of helpmate to the great man. If it's not really so, at any rate, they weren't saying. Certainly not in the midst of an election campaign. So if there may have been some doubts about their frankness, at least they get full marks for loyalty.

A.Z.

SOME so-called "senior citizens" prefer to think of themselves as "growing older" rather than "growing old" gracefully. They say that when you get to be a senior you become afraid of the word "old."

But, old or older, the men and women over the age of 60 who are members of the Seniors Branch of the Tel Aviv Association of Americans and Canadians are carrying on energetically with good works.

They were recently presented a plaque from the Sheba Medical Centre honouring their work in IL\$100,000 to buy the hospital a surgery table. This piece of equipment enables the carrying out of global procedures, such as "repairing" of fingers which otherwise have to be amputated.

Part of the money the group raised themselves, part the group raised from relatives in the U.S. States. In addition, they have tributed IL\$10,000 to Ilan and also helped the AACI to balance budget.

AN ISRAELI husband and wife are both painters, at present exhibiting their work in Amsterdam. Their show was opened by Dr. Teriow, chairman of the political party and the gathering included many veteran Zionists.

What brought these different people together? Quite simple, really, our Amsterdam correspondent explains, nah Yakhin hails from Holland came to Israel and married a Jewish girl, a Jerusalem Sepher sister stayed in Holland married Jan Teriow, at the young Dutch scientist who has gone into politics.

A feature of the opening musical programme presented trip. Of the three musicians, one a relative of Hannah's and the two have visited Israel and with the Yakhins in their M Yshuda home.

Complicated perhaps, but plot to report nonetheless.

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